

# Ward III City Council Office Newsletter

April 2008

Issue No. 3

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Friends,

Immediately following the failure of Proposition 200 in November 2007 County Supervisors Richard Elias, Sharon Bronson and I spoke about potentials for better City/County collaboration on water resource planning. To be honest, I sensed that the opponents of Prop 200 already had a plan in mind. The desire to wrestle control of water away from elected, public control is not news.

Supervisors Elias, Bronson and I co-authored a memo to our respective elected bodies (Pima County Board of Supervisors and Tucson Mayor/City Council) asking for consideration of joint County-City work to begin mapping our shared water future. That recommendation has been overwhelmingly approved.



Why start with Tucson and Pima County? The two utilities (Tucson Water and Pima County Wastewater) serve over 80% of the region's population. The Council and Board together also represent, as elected officials, all residents of the City and the County (it does not escape me, for example, that customers of Winterhaven Water and Development Company and Flowing Wells Irrigation District live in Ward 3). Starting here made sense, with the hope of building broader cooperation as successful steps are achieved. Our hope is that others in the region will undertake similar studies.

Immediately after the issuance of the City-County proposal, the coalition that funded the anti-200 campaign pushed back. That same coalition now postures as if to safeguard the public's participation and interests in the water study as it moves forward. It's hard to believe they want established elected representation and transparent public process to prevail over narrow special interests.

The critical juncture we faced in November 2007 and the current characterization of the City-County water study/collaboration should be better understood. The Board of Supervisors and the Mayor/City Council will settle for nothing less than a transparent and open process held in the public domain. We are trying hard to keep this matter in the hands of the citizenry - the full public which includes all stakeholders - elects their representatives, relies on the Open Meetings Law and holds dear the right to participate in democracy. Business and developer interests should play a part along with

everyone, but should not control the process.

The City-County water study and process outlined may be imperfect; we have already heard and are indeed responding to input from the public as plans progress. But any message that implies this is an attempt to jump into a regional authority or to railroad a path to toilet-to-tap or to undermine the public's role is not only ironic; it is inaccurate.

I am heartened by the level of energy now focused on the question of growth and water planning, and I credit to a great extent the Prop 200 campaign for getting our region's attention and action. Decisions from this point forward must be made in full public view, either directly by the voters or by their elected representatives. Let's now shape the future together.

Sincerely,

Karin Uhlich  
Council Member  
Ward III City Council Office

Latest News	More News	Upcoming Events
<p><i>Volunteer Recognition</i></p> <p>A Volunteer from Hedrick Acres NA</p> <p>Annette Rivers said, "count me in" when Tamara Prime, Ward III Council Aide, went to the Hedrick Acres Neighborhood Association meeting and asked if anyone was interested in volunteering to help people fill out their tax forms.</p> <p>Annette and her husband Bill moved into the Hedrick Acres Neighborhood three years ago. She likes being involved in the Neighborhood Association and has worked on the graffiti abatement efforts. During the week Annette works as a manager at U Mart, a U of A convenience store on campus.</p> <p>As a young girl in New York state, Annette got started in the bookkeeping/tax preparation business by helping her mother in the family owned business. The last year they were in business, and by then Annette was helping with the taxes, they were doing 10,000 tax returns per year. You could say she grew up in the business.</p> <p>On Saturday mornings during tax season, you will find Annette using her skills at the Ward III Office helping low to moderate income people fill out their tax forms. She is amazed at the diversity of people that come for help - people that have recently immigrated from Russia, China, the Czech Republic and Turkey. Also she wonders how people get by on such low wages.</p>	<p><i>Small Business</i> <i>Rebecca Wyant</i></p>  <p>At the end of the day, small business owners across Tucson do their best to close up shop knowing that they provided the best service possible and have a little profit to show for it.</p> <p>By the time dinner is over there is not much time for more other than some last minute prepping for the next day's work.</p> <p>But, you know what they say, if you want to recruit good community volunteers, look for the busy ones-- it's already in their blood. Rebecca Wyant, owner of <b>Dirty Dawgs</b> at 2510 North Campbell, is a perfect case in point.</p> <p>Here is a little on her impressive background and what she does after she closes up her shop;</p> <p>Rebecca is an active board member of the Campbell Avenue Merchants Association and was recently appointed to the Small Business Commission by Council Member Karin Uhlich. Both groups benefit from her 16 years of small business experience and 9 years of international business consulting throughout Europe, Latin America and Asia. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from Northern Arizona University and a Masters of International Management from Thunderbird</p>	<p><i>Water Conversation on Water Conservation</i></p>  <p>Please join us for a Conversation on Water Conservation</p> <p>Saturday, May 3rd from 10-12:00 at the Westside Police Service Center 1310 W. Miracle Mile</p> <p>or</p> <p>Thursday, May 8th from 6:30-8:30 at the Ward 3 office 1510 E Grant Road</p> <p>We will discuss how water efficiency impacts the water supply needs of the community. There will be time for your input on specific conservation measures, including those recommended by the Community Conservation Task Force.</p>
		<p><i>Valley of the Moon Fundraiser</i></p>  <p>A fundraiser to restore Valley of the Moon and save some of the</p>

The work is very rewarding  
Annette says: "when people  
thank me that is all I need."

We, at the Ward III Office,  
appreciate Annette's willingness  
to step up and help out.

Thank you Annette!

### *Valley of the Moon*



Have you ever been to the Valley of the Moon? Did your children get one of the magic rocks to rub and keep them safe as they wandered through the magical wonderland? Were you married there? Did you act in the Bunnyland Theater or in one of the Halloween performances standing behind a sheet pretending to dig the guts out of a poor unsuspecting patient? A lot of Tucsonans have and now they are organizing and trying to save this Historic Fantasy Fairland Park. Sue DeArmond, who lives in the Prince Tucson neighborhood, would like it to remain because she feels the folk art park is such a wonderful tradition.

In 1923 George Phar Legler began construction of the concrete wonderland, Valley of the Moon. Starting in 1932, tours took you by the Mountain Gnome, who told stories of the world of magic while he preformed magical illusions. In 1953, Life Magazine featured

School of International  
Management in Glendale,  
Arizona.

Two ingredients are important  
for any small businesses to  
succeed according to Rebecca.  
While a strong business plan  
and marketing are important  
components, Rebecca believes  
that quality service and building  
strong relationships with your  
customers is paramount.

"A product is a product."  
Rebecca stresses "But the  
service will differentiate you  
from other businesses."

Her membership with the  
Campbell Avenue Merchants  
Association and the Small  
Business Commission allow her  
to advocate for the broader,  
small business community.  
There are plenty of issues to  
address, from sign code  
policies to the planned widening  
of Grant Road. However,  
Rebecca's underlying hope is  
that everything she does leads  
people to understand how  
much Tucson's economy  
depends on the success of  
small businesses. She is  
especially impressed with the  
locally owned businesses that  
have become steady fixtures in  
our community-- those quirky,  
small businesses that have  
been around for ever.

"I have lived in Tucson for 32  
years and there are still those  
businesses in town! I mean we  
have some of the best small  
businesses!"

Go visit Rebecca at Dirty  
Dawgs some time soon and  
see how lucky we are to have  
her in Ward 3. She helps keep  
our pets clean by day and  
advocates for small businesses

Magic Carpet sculptures

Saturday, April 26

10 am till 11pm

Magic Carpet Golf

6125 E. Speedway

Magic Carpet Golf is closed but  
you can capture the magic of  
the last handmade miniature  
golf course in Arizona for one  
last round...

Reserve your tee-times online  
at [www.valleymoon.info](http://www.valleymoon.info) or just  
show up & trust your luck.

LIVE Music

Food and Drink

Auctions

LIVE Theater

Memorabilia

and Lotsa Golf!

Contributions are tax-deductible  
to the fullest extent of the law

For more information, see  
[www.valleymoon.info](http://www.valleymoon.info)  
or call 520-399-8854

## **Applause and Thanks to the VITA Volunteers**

*Thank you...  
VITA Volunteers*

Council Member Karin Uhlich  
Applauds the Work of the Ward  
III VITA Site Volunteers.

"Simply Amazing", Is Karin's  
response to the  
accomplishments achieved by

<p>Valley of the Moon with its philosophy "Kindness to All is the Golden Key to Happiness", and in 1975 it was placed on the Arizona Historic Places Register.</p>	<p>by night!</p> <p>Note: Visit the Dirty Dawgs website: <a href="http://www.dirtydawgs.biz">www.dirtydawgs.biz</a></p>	<p>the volunteers that staffed the Ward III Office site for the Earned Income Tax Credit/Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. The accomplishments are all the more impressive when you consider this is the first year the Ward III Office was host to a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Site - a program supported by United Way of Tucson.</p>
<p>Now, sadly, the Valley of the Moon, at 2544 E. Allen Rd. is in disrepair and closed. But the George Phar Legler Society is trying to change that. Charlie Spillar said they have some private contributions and recently they received a Planning and Design Service Award from Pro-Neighborhoods for pro-bono services from architects, engineers and planners. This group will help the neighbors and the Society figure out the next steps for possible restoration and get cost estimates. Judith Anderson from Pro- Neighborhoods hopes this collaborative effort will set a standard for the city.</p>	<div> <div> <div>Youth News</div> <div> <i>Youth News from Ward III</i> </div> </div> <p>Soon it will be time to sign up for the Ward III Youth Funders Group!</p> <p>In an effort to ignite and support youth voices, and to infuse the community with the unique perspectives of young people, this project will recruit, train and support youth, ages 14 - 21 years old, in making decisions about how to invest grant funds in Ward III.</p> <p><b>Youth Funders is a group of Ward III youth who:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at and prioritize community issues</li> <li>• Learn about foundations, philanthropy, nonprofit organizations and grant making</li> <li>• Have their ideas heard</li> <li>• Develop leadership, communication and teamwork skills</li> <li>• Decide how \$20,000 should be spent for youth in the area</li> <li>• Meet other young people who share their desire to improve the lives of Tucson's youth</li> <li>• Eat food! Have fun!</li> </ul> <p>If you have questions or might be interested in applying to join the <b>Ward III Youth Funders</b>, call Tamara</p> </div>	<p>According to Ann Mavko, the extraordinary Site Coordinator for the project, with a week left to go there has already been:</p> <p>Over 250 returns completed,</p> <p>Over \$160,000 in Earned Income Credits applied for,</p> <p>Over \$250,000 in total tax refunds applied for, and</p> <p>Over 900 volunteer hours from 22 very dedicated volunteers.</p> <p>Ann says they were able to do this work because they, were blessed with a super group that jelled into a super team. Below are the names of the Super Group:</p>
<p>If you want to contribute to the return of the Valley of the Moon, please attend their One Last Round fundraiser at the Magic Carpet miniature golf course, 6125 E, Speedway, on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Play a round and support a great community effort to save an important Tucson tradition.</p>		<p>Peg Anderson Ann Mavko</p> <p>Mac Capistran Fran McArthur</p> <p>Mary Carryer Kim Nelson</p> <p>Shari Fradenburgh Bill Peterson</p> <p>Bill Hanson Annette Rivers</p> <p>John Holgate Bill Rivers</p> <p>Joey Islas Art Schneider</p>
<p><i>Grant Alvernon Targeted Operational Planning Initiative</i></p> <p>Sustainability and increased quality of life in the neighborhoods are the goals of the Grant Alvernon Initiative laid out by Capt. Neri, Commander of T.P.D.s Midtown Division, at a recent meeting with neighborhood leaders. The residents attending the meeting, most of them from the Oak Flower, Dodge Flower,</p>		

Palo Verde and Midtown Neighborhoods, listened and were not surprised as Capt. Neri explained the area was chosen because it is among the highest in the City for incidents of violent and non-violent crimes.

This Initiative, built on the success of the recently completed Meth Free Pilot Project in the Dodge Flower and Oak Flower Neighborhoods, will last from 12 to 18 months. Three past attempts to change the culture of the area have failed, however Capt. Neri has a plan to succeed this time. The Plan includes : 1. Stepped up enforcement in the area - four officers have been assigned to the area 40 hours per week; 2. A transition to a community policing model; and 3. A transfer of roles and responsibilities to neighborhood residents to sustain the changes that are -already happening.

As part of this Initiative Council Member Karin Uhlich recently attended a gathering of business owners from the area, pulled together by Officers Becky Noel and Terri Hayward. They are working with the business owners to establish the first of its kind in Tucson Business Watch.

Later in the neighborhood meeting, residents proposed a meeting in June with the business owners from the area to seek solutions to common problems.

Lt. Frank Greene, Project Manager for the Initiative, recently released the accomplishments of the first

Prime at 791-4711 or email at [tamara.prime@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:tamara.prime@tucsonaz.gov).

**Saturday, April 26,  
2008. Young Women's  
Speak Out!  
Conference**

**REGISTER NOW**

The purpose of the conference is to raise awareness among for high school and middle school age young women about topics important to the health and well being of young women in our community. Keynote speaker: Shannon Cain, Executive Director of KORE Press. Workshop offerings: Self-esteem, Body Image and the Media; Healthy Relationships; Sexual Health; Physical Defense and Safety Education; Vocal Play; Explore, Plan and Prepare for College and Careers; Running for Political Office; and Women's Leadership Past and Present. No conference fee; breakfast and lunch provided. Participants completing conference evaluations may participate in a raffle drawing to be held the day of the event.

Registration forms can be requested from the

- Women's Commission

Anita Klever Mary Snow

Jean Vidal

Karin extends a heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers who dedicated themselves this year to the program aimed at putting money directly back into the pockets of low to moderate income tax filers. The results will no doubt help families throughout Ward 3 and the City, as well as the many businesses who will see additional spending on the essentials those families can now afford!

*Contact Us  
Ward III Council  
Office*

1510 E. Grant Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85719  
(520) 791-4711

**Join Our Mailing List!**



month of stepped up enforcement in the area. They included: 14 felony arrests, 22 misdemeanor arrests, 64 traffic stops, 6 impounded vehicles, 41 guns seized and almost 15 grams of cocaine, crack and methamphetamine and 100 pounds of marijuana seized. Wow!

Council Member Uhlich remains committed to supporting this exciting partnership among neighborhoods, businesses and the Tucson Police Department. The effort holds real promise for improving safety and the quality of life in midtown neighborhoods. Thanks to everyone involved from all of us in the Ward 3 office!

office at 624-8318. Mail completed forms to the Women's Commission, 240 N. Court St., Tucson, AZ 85701.

- Registration deadline is Tuesday, April 15th. Late registrations please call the office 624-8318.
- Conference time: 8:30 am - 2:45 p.m. Location: City High School, 48 E. Pennington Street (downtown Tucson). Speak Out! Is funded under a grant from the Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona, corporate and private contributions.
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters has chosen Ward III as an area of focus for connecting young people with mentors!**

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a national youth-service organization serving. Locally, they have provided high quality mentoring services since 1963, with a proven success in creating lifelong impact through mentoring relationships between adults and children.

Big Brothers Big Sisters' service is based on volunteers. A Big Brother or Big Sister is a one to one mentor to a child. They share everyday activities, expand horizons, and experience the joy in even the simplest of

activities. In those Little Moments lies the Big Magic that a Big Brother or Big Sister brings to the life of a young person. BBBS Match Support Professionals support pairs throughout their relationship. National research has shown that the shared experiences between a Big and a Little has a positive direct effect.

Big Brother Gary Baluta and Little Brother Anthony (pictured here) have been matched for a year and a half. Together they enjoy spending time at Big Brother's house, swimming, barbequing, go to sporting events, go bowling, go to events thrown by Big Brothers Big Sisters

For only 1 hour, every other week you can make a difference in the life of a child in your community. Evidence has shown that youth who are involved in our programs are better off. Look at the statistics! Youth involved in the Big Brothers Big Sisters programs are:

- 46% less likely to use illegal drugs
- 27% less likely to begin using alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school
- more confident of their performance in school
- one-third less likely to hit someone, and
- more trusting of their



parents/guardians

For information on how  
to become a mentor  
and support youth in  
Ward III:

Amy Harclerode

- 160 E. Alameda  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
Phone 520-624-2447  
Donation Center 624-  
7039  
Fax 520-624-4882  
Email  
[info@tucsonbiggs.org](mailto:info@tucsonbiggs.org)